

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A guide assembly for a sliding roof component, comprising:

a guide rail; and

a guide shoe at least partially received within the guide rail, the guide shoe having a plurality of slide elements that slide along correspondingly positioned slideways on the guide rail, two slide elements of the plurality of slide elements being located on opposite sides of the guide shoe and a third slide element is being vertically offset relative to the two slide elements, the two slide elements being spaced apart by a distance and the third slide element having a contact surface that contacts a corresponding slideway and has a dimension that is less than the distance.

2. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the two slide elements are located at approximately the same height near a top of the guide shoe, and the third slide element is located near a bottom of the guide shoe.

3. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the third slide element is centrally positioned relative to the two slide elements.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein at least one of the slide elements has a concavely curved shape and a corresponding slideway has a correspondingly convexly curved shape.

6. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein at least one of the slide elements has a convexly curved shape and a corresponding slideway has a correspondingly concavely curved shape.

7. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein at least one of the slide elements has a planar slide surface and ~~the~~a corresponding one of the slideways has a convexly curved shape.

8. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein at least one of the slide elements has a convexly curved shape and a corresponding one of the slideways has a planar slide surface.

9. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the slide elements are integrally molded as part of the guide shoe.

10. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the guide shoe and the slide elements are resilient and the slide elements are pressed resiliently against the corresponding slideways.

11. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the slide elements are arranged in a triangular orientation.

12. (Original) The assembly of claim 11, wherein each of the two and third slide elements is at a corner of the triangular configuration.

13. (New) The assembly of claim 1, wherein each of the slide elements contacts a corresponding slideway along a single line of contact.

14. (New) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the two slide elements each have a contact surface that contacts a corresponding slideway and has a dimension and wherein the dimension of each contact surface is approximately equal.

15. (New) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the third slide element has one of a concave or a convex shape.

16. (New) The assembly of claim 15, wherein a slideway corresponding to the third slide element has a shape that is the other of the convex or concave shape.

17. (New) A guide assembly for a sliding roof component, comprising:

a guide rail; and

a guide shoe at least partially received within the guide rail, the guide shoe having a plurality of slide elements that slide along correspondingly positioned slideways on the guide rail, two slide elements of the plurality of slide elements being located on opposite sides of the guide rail and a third slide element being vertically offset relative to the two slide elements, wherein at least one of the slide elements has a concavely curved shape and a corresponding slideway has a correspondingly convexly curved shape.

18. (New) A guide assembly for a sliding roof component, comprising:

a guide rail; and

a guide shoe at least partially received within the guide rail, the guide shoe having a plurality of slide elements that slide along correspondingly positioned slideways on the guide rail, two slide elements of the plurality of slide elements being located on opposite sides of the guide rail and a third slide element being vertically offset relative to the two slide elements,

wherein at least one of the slide elements has a planar slide surface and a corresponding one of the slideways has a convexly curved shape.

19. (New) A guide assembly for a sliding roof component, comprising:

a guide rail; and

a guide shoe at least partially received within the guide rail, the guide shoe having a plurality of slide elements that slide along correspondingly positioned slideways on the guide rail, two slide elements of the plurality of slide elements being located on opposite sides of the guide rail and a third slide element being vertically offset relative to the two slide elements, wherein at least one of the slide elements has a convexly curved shape and a corresponding one of the slideways has a planar slide surface.